

No choice but to explain Malay rights, says Muhyiddin
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KUALA LUMPUR - Umno needs to explain the issue of Malay rights extensively because it has been twisted by certain groups for their own political interests, party deputy president Muhyiddin Yassin said.

He said Umno had no choice but to take up the issue to prevent further confusion, according to *The Star*.

Muhyiddin, who is also the Deputy Prime Minister, said Umno could not just sit back and watch the rakyat being misled by irresponsible groups.

"We have to respond or we would be called 'bacul' (coward). We have never raised this issue before because we understand that the rights of the Malays and bumiputras are clearly stated and well-guarded in the Constitution," he said Thursday, on the sidelines of Umno's 61st general assembly.

Umno president Najib Abdul Razak, in his presidential address earlier Thursday, touched extensively on the issue of Malay rights.

Muhyiddin said with the explanation, the debate on the issue should be stopped immediately as it would not change anything, but merely cause unhappiness among the people.

"There is no point debating on it except purely for academic purposes.

"The rights of the Malays and bumiputras as well as other races have been clearly stated in the Constitution and any

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